

Appl. No. 10/733,993
Amdt. dated January 5, 2006
Reply to Office action of October 7, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the examiner's indication that claims 2-10, 12-14, 17, 20 and 21 contain allowable subject matter.

The features of claims 2, 3 and 5 are added to claim 1 in the alternative, and claims 2, 3 and 5 are canceled without prejudice. Applicant notes that in amended claim 1, the trademark, "velcro" of original claim 5 is replaced with the generic term "hook and loop fastener", to avoid use of a trademark in the claim. This change is not related to patentability of amended claim 1. Claim 4 is amended to depend on claim 1.

Claim 6 is rewritten in independent form, and is amended to recite the features of claim 7 in the alternative. Claim 7 is canceled without prejudice.

Claim 8 is rewritten in independent form.

Claim 11 is rewritten to include the features of claim 12, which is canceled without prejudice.

Claims 13 and 14 are rewritten in independent form.

Claim 15 is amended to include the features of claims 16 and 17, which are canceled without prejudice.

Claim 18 is amended to include the features of claim 20, which is canceled without prejudice, and claim 21 is amended to depend on claim 18.

Claim 22 is canceled.

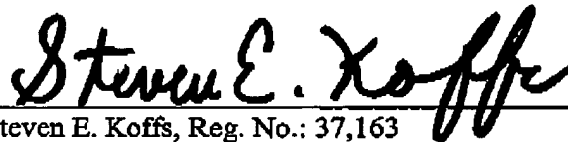
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any excess payment that may be associated with this communication to deposit account 04-1679.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1-5-06



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